

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 88-154, 156-164, 166 and 167 are pending.

Claims 146-154, 156-164, 166 and 167 are allowed.

Claims 88-124, 126, 127 and 129 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Faris U.S. Patent No. 5,786,629 (hereinafter "Faris") in view of Wojnarowski U.S. Patent No. 5,324,687 (hereinafter "Wojnarowski").

Claims 125, 128, and 130-145 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Summary of Applicant's Amendments

Applicant has amended independent claims 88, 97 and 101 to respectively include all of the features of claims 143, 144 and 145 which were indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Applicant submits that amended claims 88, 97 and 101, and claims 89-96, 98-100, 102-124, 126, 127 and 129 which depend from claims 88, 97 and 101, are in condition for allowance.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowance of claims 146-154, 156-164, 166 and 167.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 125, 128, and 130-145. Applicant has rewritten claims 125, 128, 130 and 131 in independent form including all of the limitations of claim 97 from which they were dependent. Applicant submits that claims 125, 128, 130 and 131, and claims 132-139 which depend from claim 131, are in condition for allowance. Applicant submits that claims 140-142, which each depend from amended claims 88, 97 and 101, are in condition for allowance.

Applicant has canceled claims 143, 144 and 145.

Applicant has added new claims 168-171.

Applicant's Reply to the § 103(a) Rejection

Claims 88-124, 126, 127 and 129 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Faris in view of Wojnarowski.

Applicant has amended independent claims 88, 97, and 101 to respectively include the features of claims 143, 144 and 145 that the Examiner indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

In light of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 88, 97, and 101, and claims 89-96, 98-100, 102-124, 126, 127 and 129 which depend from one of claims 88, 97, and 101, are allowable.

Applicant's Reply to the Claim Objections

Claims 125, 128, and 130-145 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant submits that claims 125, 128 and 130-142 are dependent from claims 88, 97, and 101. At least because applicant has shown claims 88, 97, and 101 to be allowable, applicant submits that claims 125, 128 and 130-142 are allowable.

Applicant has rewritten claims 125, 128, 130 and 131 in independent form including all of the limitations of claim 97 from which they were dependent. Applicant submits that claims 125, 128, 130 and 131, and claims 132-139 which depend from claim 131, are in condition for allowance. Applicant submits that claims 140-142, which each depend from amended claims 88, 97 and 101, are in condition for allowance.

Applicant has canceled claims 143-145.

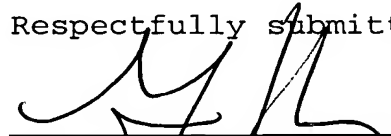
New Claims 168-171

Applicant has added new claims 168-171 to more particularly claim additional features of the invention. Applicant submits that claims 168-171, which respectively depend from claims 125, 128, 130, and 131, are allowable because they depend from allowable claims.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, claims 88-142, 146-154, 156-164, and 166-171 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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